

CERRO GRANDE INCIDENT

FLOOD CONTINGENCY PLAN

FOR

PUEBLO OF SAN ILDEFONSO

AND

PUEBLO OF SANTA CLARA

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PART I. AUTHORIZATION

Authority

Authority for any evacuation carried out under this plan is based upon the United States Code regarding activities of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the emergency declaration clauses of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Pueblos of Santa Clara and San Ildefonso. ****check if this wording is correct****

Authorization

This plan has been reviewed and, when conditions occur as described in this plan, we authorize the responsible agencies to implement the actions recommended.

Governor, Pueblo of Santa Clara

Date

Governor, Pueblo of San Ildefonso

Date

Superintendent, Northern Pueblos Agency, BIA

Date

Responsible Agencies/Jurisdictions

Responsibility for implementing this plan is assigned to:

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northern Pueblos Agency (NPA)

Law Enforcement Services (LES)

Branch of Natural Resources

Branch of Forestry

Branch of Roads

State of New Mexico

Highway and Transportation Department

Public Safety Department

Santa Clara Pueblo (SCP)

Police Department

Public Works Department

San Ildefonso Pueblo (SIP)

Sheriff

PART II. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, POTENTIAL THREATS

Goals

Protect life and property from potential hazards posed by post fire flooding and soil movement.

Objectives

Identify properties potentially threatened by post fire flooding. *****this is being done by NRCS, once potentially threatened properties have been identified they should be referenced in this report (name, phone numbers, addresses) and on attached maps*****

Establish early flood warning system with necessary communication networks.

Identify resources and procedures necessary to carry out emergency measures including public notification, property protection, evacuation, traffic control, and maintenance of roads and flood control measures.

Provide for the timely, safe, and orderly evacuation of affected areas as ordered by the responsible agency.

Potential Threats

This plan addresses low-lying residences and properties at risk within the Pueblos of Santa Clara and San Ildefonso, the Santa Clara Canyon Road (BIA 601), and State Routes 4, 30 and 502 within Pueblo lands, as shown on the attached maps.

This plan is intended to be implemented in coordination with the Los Alamos County Flood Contingency Plan and the Cerro Grande Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Plan. The Los Alamos County plan includes information pertaining to emergency response procedures and contacts for County lands. The BAER plan provides information about flood control and property damage mitigation treatments, including specifications for public awareness signs to warn of potential flood hazards.

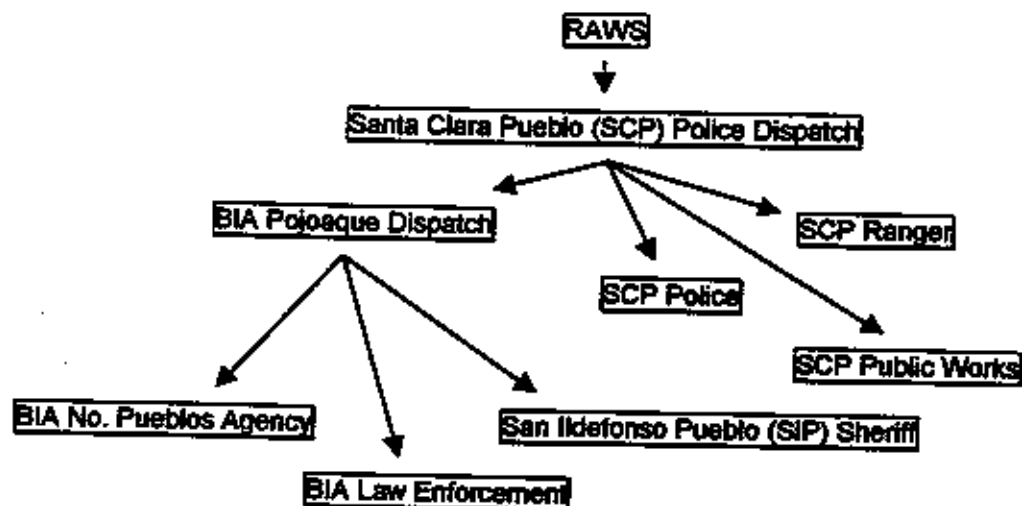
During and immediately after precipitation events, persons in drainages and low-lying areas below the fire, especially residents, motorists, and recreationists, are at risk of being caught in pools of water and mud or in fast-moving flows of water and debris. Persons caught in flood waters could be injured or drowned when struck by debris. Operators and passengers in motor vehicles are at risk of injury or drowning if their vehicles are swept off of roadways by water or debris. Traffic control personnel are at risk of being injured by vehicles in proximity of flash flood zones.

PART III. ORGANIZATION

Nine remote automated weather stations (RAWS) have been positioned throughout the burn area to monitor precipitation levels. The station locations are included on maps *****map***** included in Part VIII. The stations will broadcast warnings whenever the precipitation threshold (0.16 inches in a 10 minute period) is exceeded. Warnings will be transmitted directly to the Los Alamos (LAPD) and Santa Clara Pueblo Police Departments. The LAPD will relay precipitation

warnings to the National Weather Service in Albuquerque who will issue flood warnings as conditions warrant.

The following diagram indicates the emergency response organization on potentially affected tribal lands.



PART IV. COMMUNICATION

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Pojoaque Dispatch

Law Enforcement Services

Mike Perez

455-2295 (24 hr.)

753-1430 (office)

455-7324 (home)

880-9562 (cell)

NPA Branch of Natural Resources

Carlos Salazar

753-1445 (office)

885-4541 (home)

889-2034 (cell)

NPA Branch of Roads backhoes, dozers

Levi Valdez

753-1480 (office)

455-3380 (home)

670-1659 (cell)

NPA Branch of Forestry crews

Gabe Morgan

753-1455 (office)

455-1483 (home)

660-1668 (cell)

Santa Clara Pueblo

Police Dispatch

Anthony Suzao

753-7326 (24 hr.)

Public Works Department

Mel Tafoya

753-7326 (24 hr.)

backhoes, dozers

Ranger One

Jose Chavarria

753-7326 (office)

470-6256 (cell)

San Idefonso Pueblo

Sheriff

Dale Martinez

455-1387 (office)

455-3078 (home)

Los Alamos Police Department

Captain

Robert Repass

662-8285 (office)

470-3048 (cell)

984-5836 (pager)

National Weather Service

1-888-356-7637

RAWS System
Field Supervisor

Bob McCormick

1-208-387-5726 (office)
1-208-850-0647 (cell)**Shelters**

Salvation Army

1-888-864-4272

Pojoaque – Lady of Guadalupe (next to Pojoaque School)

Espanola

753-7899

Santa Fe

988-8050

La Luz de Santa Fe

438-0877

St. Elizabeth in Santa Fe

Hospitals/Counseling/Social Services

PHS Indian Health Services in Santa Fe

988-9821

Espanola Hospital

753-7111

Home telephone numbers are confidential and should not be given to the general public.

KKOB radio will broadcast emergency alerts as directed by the Los Alamos Police and Fire Departments. Residents should be advised to tune to KKOB for flood alert information.

PART V. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Traffic Control Devices

Signs ("Warning! Extreme Flood and Mudflow Hazard Caused by Fire. Do Not Enter This Area During Rains or for 4 Hours After Rains"): 1 posted on Santa Clara Canyon Road at Sawyer Canyon, 1 at Sacred Area Road on San Ildefonso Pueblo.

Signs ("Road Closed Ahead"): 5

Signs ("Road Closed"): 5

Barricades (reflective with flashing lights): 10

PART VI. FLOOD RESPONSE STAGES

Stage 1 – Flood Watch

Condition:

Flood warning issued by National Weather Service or rainfall at following RAWS exceeds 0.16 inches in 10 minute period: station 333 Pajarito Canyon, 777 Garcia Canyon, 888 Santa Clara Canyon, 999 upper Santa Clara Canyon *****check to see if these are most appropriate stations to determine risk to Pueblos*****.

Action:

1. All responsible organizations/individuals will be notified of stage 1 conditions in accordance with the organization and communication networks displayed in Parts III and

IV. The National Weather Service will be notified by the Los Alamos County Fire Department.

2. Observers will be dispatched to the following locations to monitor water flow and potential flood damage:

- the entrance to Santa Clara Canyon to observe Santa Clara and Sawyer Creeks (Santa Clara Pueblo Ranger),
- Santa Clara Creek at the west side of Santa Clara Pueblo (Santa Clara Pueblo Police),
- Garcia Canyon at Highway 30 (BIA Law Enforcement),

-----these are estimated problem areas, they may be adjusted once flood risk assessments have been completed by NRCS-----

-----is there a need to station an observer at sacred area?-----

3. Immediately notify LAPD Dispatch if flood waters threaten to breach highway 30.

Stage 2 – Flood Response Preparation

Condition:

Any of the following conditions exist at observation points:

- water levels are rising rapidly,
- water level at any of the designated flow observation points reaches a depth of 12 inches or more,
- stream flow velocity is rapidly increasing, or
- stream flow is laden with debris.

Action:

1. All responsible organizations/individuals will be notified of stage 2 conditions in accordance with the organization and communication networks displayed in Parts III and IV.
2. Police will notify potentially threatened residents of stage 2 alert and possibility of evacuation.
3. Measures should be taken to prepare for potential evacuations or other emergency response actions. This includes pre-positioning of personnel and equipment. Initial responders will make judgments regarding the need for additional personnel and equipment. Additional resources will be requested through the Pojoaque or Santa Clara dispatch offices.
4. Ranger will close irrigation head gate in Santa Clara Creek to avoid damage to the system by sediment and debris.

Stage 3 – Flood Response Implementation

Condition:

It is determined by authorities (Tribal Police, Tribal Fire Departments, or Bureau of Indian Affairs) that flood waters may pose an immediate threat to life or property.

Action:

1. Emergency response actions will be carried out as determined necessary. Emergency response actions may include traffic control, road clearing, evacuation, emergency flood control measures, etc. Residents should only be evacuated if it is believed evacuation would pose a reduced risk of injury.
2. Control traffic in flooded areas until water subsides and any road clearing has been completed.
3. Request heavy equipment and/or crews as determined necessary to protect life and property.
4. Evacuate residents if threatened by rising flood waters. Areas at risk and residents names and phone numbers are located in the Appendix. Document any contacts with people who refuse to evacuate, including name, address, date, time, and nature of conversation.
5. Evacuees should be directed to the following agencies for shelter and emergency social services as coordinated through Pojoaque dispatch: community health representatives, BIA social services, IHS social services. *****determine what shelters/services are available*****
6. Notify evacuees when it is safe to return to their homes.
7. Once flood waters have subsided request needed heavy equipment and/or crews as necessary to clear roads. Coordinate highway clearing with the State Highway Department.

PART VII. RESIDENT ADVISORY

Threats to Health and Safety

- During and immediately after heavy rain, persons in canyons and low lying areas below the Cerro Grande Fire, especially in residences or other structures, are at risk of being caught in fast-moving flows of water and debris or mud. Persons caught in floods could be drowned, or injured when struck by debris.
- Drivers and passengers in motor vehicles are at risk of drowning or injury after their vehicles are swept off of roadways by water or debris, or driving onto water- or debris-covered roadways which have been damaged by water or debris.
- Traffic control personnel are at risk of being struck by vehicles which are approaching, entering, traveling through, or departing flash flood zones.
- Do not enter flood prone areas during or shortly after heavy rain.

- If trapped by flood waters, move uphill away from canyons.
- Do not cross areas covered by flood water or flood debris.

Area Description

Flood prone areas are downstream of the area burned in the Cerro Grande Fire and include Santa Clara, Sawyer, Garcia, Chupaderos, Guaje, Los Alamos, and Mortendad Canyons; Canyon del Buey; State Highways 3, 40 and 502; the Santa Clara Canyon road (BIA 601); and low-lying areas in the Pueblos of Santa Clara and San Ildefonso.

Preparing for Floods

Residents can also take precautionary actions in and around their residences. Secure loose items in your yard, as floatable items may clog culverts downstream and result in additional damage. Make sure that your propane tank is secure, so that it does not float away and cause a fire or explosion (your gas provider can provide instructions). In preparation for possible evacuations, those potentially affected may wish to prepare their personal property for efficient travel. Prescription drugs, necessary medical supplies, family photographs, legal papers, and other valuable items should be collected where they can be quickly loaded.

During an evacuation, if time allows, turn off propane gas at the tank, and turn off electricity at the meter or main circuit breaker box. Small pets should be transported with family members or left with friends or family clear of the potential flood zones, as they may not be accommodated at the evacuation center.

Residents who live above flood areas but regularly drive through potential flood areas are advised to stock up on supplies in case access is restricted. Food, medications, clean drinking water, and any special needs may be difficult to obtain for 24 to 48 hours following extreme flooding.

PART VIII. MAPS

****attach maps showing fire perimeter, burn severity, land ownership, RAWS locations, locations of properties at risk, and major drainages (with name labels) down to Rio Grande—Dale Swanson has a good base map in GIS, need to add burn severity, RAWS locations, and properties at risk****